

vmitestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2015 3:11 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: keira.kamiya@hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR99 on Mar 30, 2015 10:00AM
Attachments: HCR99_TESTIMONY_VMI.pdf

HCR99

Submitted on: 3/27/2015

Testimony for VMI on Mar 30, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keira Kamiya	Office of the Lieutenant Governor	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**TESTIMONY OF
THE OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
& CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 99

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka, and members of the House Committee Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor supports House Concurrent Resolution No. 99, requesting the Governor to approve the establishment of a sister state relationship between the State of Hawaii and the prefecture of Hokkaido, Japan. By invitation of the Hokkaido government, in January 2014, the Lieutenant Governor traveled with Hawaii Tourism Authority representatives to Hokkaido, Japan to execute a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) between Hawaii and Hokkaido. The MOC reflected both sides' interest and willingness to further explore the establishment of a sister-state relationship due to shared interests, industries, and other commonalities. While the MOC did not establish any legal obligation on the part of either party, the groundwork was laid for future discussions.

Furthermore, the direct flight access on Hawaiian Airlines and increased activity with HTA-Japan make this relationship valuable to continue to pursue and explore. The Office of the Lieutenant Governor supports HCR99 and urges the passage of this resolution. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2015 3:44 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: tsoares@dbedt.hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR99 on Mar 30, 2015 10:00AM
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HCR99

Submitted on: 3/27/2015

Testimony for VMI on Mar 30, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tommilyn Soares	DBEDT	Support	Yes

Comments: Mary Alice Evans or Milton Kwock will testify

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY,
& INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

Monday, March 30, 2015
10:00 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 312
in consideration of
HCR 99

**REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
SISTER STATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII
AND THE PREFECTURE OF HOKKAIDO, JAPAN.**

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka and Members of the House Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of HCR 99, which requests the Governor's approval to establish a sister-state relationship between the State of Hawaii and Hokkaido, Japan.

In 2006, the Legislature established the Hawaii Sister State Committee. Its responsibility includes recommending to the Governor and the Legislature on proposed sister state relationships. Accordingly, the Hawaii Sister State Committee has developed an application and process for entities seeking to establish a sister state relationship with the State of Hawaii. After review of a completed application, the Committee forwards its recommendation to the Governor and the Legislature for their review and decision.

We recommend that those entities pursuing a sister state relationship between the State of Hawaii and Hokkaido follow the process established by the Legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2015 8:14 PM
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HCR99

Submitted on: 3/29/2015

Testimony for VMI on Mar 30, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanzo Nara	Hokkaido Club Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony For HCR99

As president of the Hokkaido Club Hawaii, we support HCR99.

Hokkaido like Hawaii, is relatively isolated from the central government in many ways, and tend to depend on external factors for both economic growth and culture development. With a sister state relationship both Hokkaido & Hawaii will be enriched by culture exchange, and trade on an international stage.

Both Hawaii, and Hokkaido because of its detachment from centralized government, economically, and geographically make them culturally distinct, and at the same time rich with its own significant history. If Hokkaido and Hawaii should enter into a sister state, we would be able to share more of our similarities, and teach our younger children of island culture from a different regions of the world.

In 2012 we the Hokkaido Club Hawaii were delighted to hear the new direct flight, from Chitose International airport to Honolulu operated by Hawaiian Airlines. As we are entering the 3rd year of this direct flight, we are concerned to learn that out of all of Hawaiian airlines operations, the Chitose flight has the least roade factor.

We hope with the passing of HCR99 we may restore not only temporary travelers, but increase commerce exchange with Hokkaido, and Hawaii to stimulate both islands.

President Hokkaido Club Hawaii
Kanzo J Nara